



FEMA

Disaster News

May 19, 2010

DR 1894-RI-NR046

FEMA News Desk: 401-468-3163

Governor's Office, Amy Kempe: 401-954-3873

SBA, Michael Lampton: 404-331-0333

RIEMA Contact, Steve Kass: 401-663-9776

Editors: The numbers are as of close of business May 18, 2010.

RHODE ISLAND RECOVERY FUNDING TOPS \$60.3 MILLION

WARWICK, R.I. – Rhode Island households and businesses affected by the severe storms and flooding beginning March 12, 2010, have received **\$60,312,124** in approved disaster grants and loans, according to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA).

More than **24,910** households and businesses in Rhode Island have registered with FEMA. Although, there are indications that many residents have not yet registered.

More than **\$33 million** has been approved to help disaster-affected Rhode Islanders with temporary housing, home repairs and other needs through FEMA's Individuals and Households Program, including **\$30,387,011** for housing assistance and **\$2,619,436** for other disaster-related needs.

More than **\$27,251,900** in loans to homeowners, renters, nonprofit organizations and businesses of all sizes has been approved by the SBA for uncompensated losses due to the flooding.

FEMA-funded Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA), which is administered by the state, has paid out \$53,776 to date to persons whose employment was affected by the disaster. A total of 172 have applied for DUA.

FEMA has completed **22,821** home inspections - more than 99 percent of the inspections requested. At the peak of the disaster response, more than 190 inspectors were in the field; 8 remain.

FEMA Community Relations field specialists have been visiting neighborhoods, identifying special needs, and talking with residents at their homes and at community meetings in affected counties. Community Relations teams have visited more than **14,550** households and talked with nearly **5,650** people about disaster assistance and issues they are experiencing in the aftermath of the floods and storms.

More than **4,929** Rhode Island residents have received counseling from FEMA hazard mitigation specialists on a range of information on mitigation techniques people can use to repair, rebuild and build homes and other structures.

With the assistance of the Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency, FEMA's Private Sector specialists have disseminated disaster information, via electronic newsletters to more than **7,800** businesses, Chambers of Commerce, schools, trade and professional organizations and private sector organizations and their estimated **128,000** employees.

FEMA and the State of Rhode Island's Disaster Recovery Centers (DRCs) have transitioned to U.S. Small Business Administration Disaster Loan Outreach Centers. More than **8,520** people visited DRCs to talk one-on-one with recovery specialists. Additionally, **160** have visited an SBA Disaster Loan Outreach Center. Information is free. There is no limit on the number of times someone can visit with a specialist or on the number of publications they can have.

The centers, which are staffed with FEMA and SBA personnel, have been established in the following locations:

South County Community Action Agency
34 Pond St.
Westerly, RI 02891
M-F, 8:30 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Saturday, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

West Warwick Senior & Community Center
145 Washington St.
West Warwick, RI 02893
M-F, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Saturday, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

North Providence Public Library
1810 Mineral Spring Ave.
North Providence, RI 02904
M-F, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Saturday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Union Fire Station
South Kingstown
131 Asa Pond Road
Wakefield, RI 02879
M-F, 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Meanwhile, FEMA's mitigation outreach personnel will continue to staff mitigation booths at local retailers, including Lowe's in Cranston, Sam's Club in Warwick, and Whole Foods in Cranston. Two new locations have been started at Home Depot in Middletown (878 W. Main Road 02842), and at Westerly (120 Franklin St. 02891).

The two self-service mitigation booths currently located at the Walmart stores on Post Road and Bald Hill Road will continue to operate until further notice. Six new self-service booths are now open at the following locations:

Rippy's Marketplace
4153 S. County Trail
Charlestown, RI 02813

Langworthy Library
24 Spring St.
Hope Valley, RI 02832

Ocean Community YMCA
Arcadia Branch
1190 Main St.
Wyoming, RI 02898

Pete's Grocery
244B Ashaway Road
Bradford, RI 02808

Ashaway Free Library
15 Knight St.
Hopkinton, RI 02804

Stop & Shop
3 Stilson Road
Richmond, RI 02898

Rhode Islanders have until May 28 to register for assistance by going online at www.fema.gov or by calling FEMA at **1-800-621-3362** or **TTY 1-800-462-7585**. However after the deadline passes, residents can still contact FEMA to find out the status of their application, or to resolve problems, or appeal a decision by calling FEMA at **1-800-621-FEMA (3362)** or **TTY 1-800-462-7585**. For more information on SBA applications, residents and business owners may contact SBA's customer service center at **1-800-659-2955** from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m Monday through Friday, and 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

###

FEMA's mission is to support our citizens and first responders to ensure that as a nation we work together to build, sustain, and improve our capability to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate all hazards.

Disaster recovery assistance is available without regard to race, color, religion, nationality, sex, age, disability, English proficiency or economic status. If you or someone you know has been discriminated against, call FEMA toll-free at 800-621-FEMA (3362). For TTY call 800-462-7585.

The Small Business Administration (SBA) is the federal government's primary source of money for the long-term rebuilding of disaster-damaged private property. SBA helps homeowners, renters, businesses of all sizes, and private, nonprofit organizations fund repairs or rebuilding efforts, and cover the cost of replacing lost or disaster-damaged personal property. These disaster loans cover losses not fully compensated by insurance or other recoveries and do not duplicate benefits of other agencies or

organizations. For information about SBA programs, applicants may call 1-800- 659-2955 or TTY 1-800-977-8339.

For more information on Rhode Island disaster recovery, visit www.fema.gov or www.floodrecovery.ri.gov